POSTERS USED IN ENGLAND'S CAMPAIGN FOR RECRUITS

AN APPEAL TO YOU

TAKE UP THE SWORD OF JUSTICE

WOMEN OF BRITAIN SAY— "GO!"

YOUR COUNTRY'S CALL

Isn't this worth fighting for?
ENLIST NOW

BRITAIN·NEEDS

YOU·AT·ONCE

We're both needed to serve the Guns!

**FILL UP THE RANKS!
PILE UP THE MUNITIONS!**

AT THE FRONT!

Every fit Briton should join our brave men at the Front.

ENLIST NOW.

STEP INTO YOUR PLACE

THE great war has put the voluntary military service system of England to its supreme test. It is too early yet to say whether or not it is a failure. Conscription has been agitated, urged, threatened. A strong faction in the British Cabinet believes it is inevitable. Lord Kitchener himself, while admitting that voluntary enlistments are doing but little more than to fill the gaps in the fighting line in France, still hopes that the final measure of compulsory service may not prove necessary. Meanwhile Lord Derby is giving voluntary recruiting its final test and the campaign for recruits is proceeding over England with a fervor and determination that it is hoped will save England from the humiliation of abandoning a system of which, with the United States, she has been one of the only two proponents of importance.

Posters have played an important part in the British campaign for recruits, and the way London and all England and her possessions are plastered with them emphasizes the great change that has come

about in recruiting methods since the United States. with a fife and drum corps and a silver tongued soap box orator, underwent her supreme test of the voluntary service system in the '60s.

Notwithstanding the vast changes of a half a century, admirably emphasized in the supreme art of the English recruiting posters, upon which the best talent of the empire has expended its efforts, it is interesting to note how the history of recruiting in the North is repeating itself in England to-day and may further repeat itself.

At the close of 1862 voluntary enlistment appeared to be a failure in the North. Early in 1863 Lincoln reluctantly consented to conscription.

The South already was practising universal conscription of so rigorous a nature that escape was well nigh impossible and of such elastic limits that boys as young as 12 years and men as old as 65 were drafted. Few men of these extremes of age found their way to the fighting lines, but boys and old men were generally used as prison guards.

Some of the most bloodthirsty guards at Andersonville and Libby, the quickest to shoot if a prisoner stepped across the "dead line," were boys of 12 years.

Congress on March 3, 1863, passed the conscription act by which all abled bodied males between the ages of 20 and 45 years were subject to draft. A draft of 300,000 men immediately was ordered.

The direct result of the draft as a military measure was failure. The draft created intense antagonism throughout the North and New York from the thirteenth to the sixteenth of July was in the hands of a mob that killed 1,000 persons and destroyed $1,500,000 worth of property.

The total number of men obtained by the draft was less than 50,000. But the measure had a result not expected by its proponents. It stimulated voluntary recruiting to the extent that never again until the close of the war was there even a hint of the necessity of further drafts.